

Q. Has there ever been an F5 tornado in Arkansas?

A. Only one such tornado has been documented in Arkansas history. It occurred on April 10, 1929, in northern Jackson County, and is known as the "Sneed Tornado".

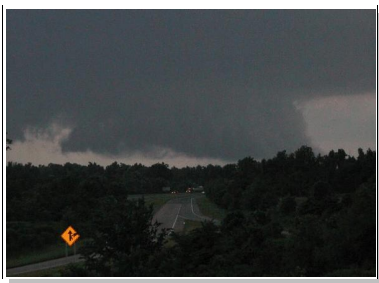
In the picture: This storm shelter (in the middle of a field about 3 miles north of Swifton in Jackson County) was actually used during the "Sneed Tornado" of 04/10/1929.



The National Weather Service researched this tornado several years ago. You can read more about it at:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lzk/html/tor041029a.htm>

Q. What type of cloud formations might appear before a tornado?



A. The "wall cloud" would be the most important. This is a localized lowering of the base of the thunderstorm. This area of lowering, which appears to be the base of the storm bulging downward, might be as little as one mile across or perhaps as much as five or six miles across.

In the picture: This wall cloud was photographed by Michael Hook, a trained storm spotter, on 05/16/2003.

If you are close enough to a true wall cloud, you should be able to see rotation within the wall cloud. The following publications describe severe weather in depth and include a number of pictures of various cloud formations associated with severe weather. (Note: File sizes are large and will take awhile to download.)

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/brochures/basicspot.pdf>

[http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/brochures/adv\\_spotters.pdf](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/brochures/adv_spotters.pdf)

24. 3 miles northeast of Manila (Mississippi Co.), June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5:50 PM – A weak (F0) tornado had a path length of 0.3 mile.

25. 1.5 miles west of Haskell to 0.8 mile north of Haskell (Saline Co.), October 18<sup>th</sup>, 8:59 AM – A weak (F1) tornado had a path length of 2 miles.

26. 4 miles southwest of Sardis to 8.3 miles east of Wrightsville (Saline and Pulaski Cos.), October 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:20 AM – A strong (F2) tornado had a path length of 24 miles. Eleven people were injured.



In the picture: Remains of mobile homes were strewn through trees by an F2 tornado about 2.5 miles south of Sardis (Saline County) on 10/18/2004.

27. 1.8 miles north of England to 2.2 miles southwest of Blakemore (Lonoke Co.), October 18<sup>th</sup>, 10:07 AM – A weak (F0) tornado had a path length of 3.3 miles.

28. 2 miles southeast of Seaton Dump to 4.7 miles east-northeast of Ulm (Lonoke and Prairie Cos.), October 18<sup>th</sup>, 10:42 AM – A strong (F2) tornado had a path length of 19 miles. The tornado caused damage in excess of \$12 million at the Stuttgart Airport.

In the picture: Aircraft were thrown around like toys by an F2 tornado at the Stuttgart Airport (near Fairmount in Prairie County) on 10/18/2004.



29. Pocahontas (Randolph Co.), October 18<sup>th</sup>, 4:50 PM – A weak (F0) tornado had a path length of 2 miles.

30. 6 miles east of Pocahontas to 1 mile northeast of Peach Orchard (Randolph and Clay Cos.), October 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:05 PM – A weak (F1) tornado had a path length of 13 miles.

31. Lafa to 4 miles north of Marmaduke (Greene Co.), October 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:10 PM – A weak (F0) tornado had a path length of 8 miles.